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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,184	02/28/2002	Masayuki Miyamoto	1248-0579P	4910
2292	7590	08/23/2005	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			CHOE, HENRY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 08/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.P

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/084,184	Applicant(s) MIYAMOTO, MASAYUKI	
	Examiner Henry K. Choe	Art Unit 2817	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-9, 11-17, 19-44 and 46-54 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 10, 18 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 10, 18 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuura (Fig. 1).

Regarding claims 1 and 45, Matsuura (Fig. 1) discloses an amplifier circuit comprising an amplifying transistor (2a, 2b) which amplifies an input signal (a signal coming into the input terminal 1), and a current path control section (4a, 4b, amplitude control circuit) which adjusts a percentage (an adjustable current source 4a controls the amplification factor of the amplifying transistor 2a) control of the amplifying transistor (2a) which contributes to amplification of the input signal (a signal coming into the input terminal 1) and a path of a current through the amplifying transistor (2a).

Regarding claim 2, the current path control section (4a, 4b, amplitude control circuit) includes a current control transistor [(4a); It should be noted that the controllable current source 4a is functionally equivalent to the claimed current control transistor] which controls a current flow through the amplifying transistor (2a) and vga including a plurality of unit circuits (2a and 4a, 2b and 4b) which are disposed parallel to one another, each (2a and 4a) having the amplifying transistor (2a) and the current control transistor (4a) and wherein the unit circuits (2a and 4a, 2b and 4b) being connected to

one another through signal inputs (a signal coming into the input terminal 1) and signal outputs (signals coming out of the output terminals 6' and 6) of the unit circuits (2a and 4a, 2b and 4b).

Regarding claim 10, each unit circuit (2a, 4a, amplitude control circuit) includes a switch control circuit (amplitude control circuit).

Regarding claim 18, the common operation control voltages (voltage signals coming into the amplitude control input) are inputted to the switch control circuit (amplitude control circuit).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Patent number (6,218,899) is a variable gain amplifier.


Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Henry Choe whose telephone number is (571) 272-1760.


HENRY CHOE
PRIMARY EXAMINER